

AMENDMENTS

In the claims:

Please amend Claims 1, 4, 5, 8 and 21 to read as follows. In addition, please cancel Claim 3 without prejudice or disclaimer.

1. (thrice amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising at least 100 contiguous bases of SEQ ID No:1 or 3, or the complement thereof.

4. (thrice amended) A recombinant vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of Claim 1 or 2.

5. (thrice amended) An expression vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of Claim 1 or 2 operatively associated with a regulatory nucleic acid that controls the expression of the nucleic acid molecule in a host cell.

8. (twice amended) A method for producing a polypeptide comprising introducing into a cell an expression vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of Claim 1 or 2 operatively associated with a regulatory nucleic acid that controls the expression of the nucleic acid molecule in a host cell; and culturing the cell such that the polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid molecule is produced.

21. (amended) A host cell genetically engineered to express the nucleic acid molecule of Claim 1 or 2 operatively associated with a regulatory nucleic acid controlling the expression of the nucleic acid molecule in the host cell.